

REMARKS

Favorable consideration and allowance of the present application is respectfully requested.

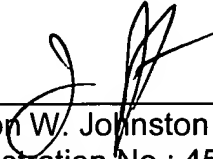
Currently, claims 56-69 and 71-93 (independent claims 56, 73, and 87) are pending in the present application. In the Office Action, claims 73-87, including independent claims 73 and 87, were allowed. However, independent claim 56 was still rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 4,762,862 to Yada, et al. Specifically, it was stated in the Office Action (with respect to independent claim 56) that the reference to a "wound dressing" in the preamble is merely a recitation of purpose or use, and is not considered a claim limitation. Although Applicants disagree, claim 56 has nonetheless been amended to further clarify that the "wound dressing" is a limitation. In addition, independent claim 56 has also been amended to incorporate the limitations of dependent claim 70.

It is believed that the present application is in complete condition for allowance and favorable action, therefore, is respectfully requested. Examiner Yu is invited and encouraged to telephone the undersigned, however, should any issues remain after consideration of this Amendment.

Please charge any additional fees required by this Amendment to Deposit Account No. 04-1403.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: 1/21/03